

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE AND EACH COUNTY TO ADOPT THE GLOBAL PACT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT TO ACHIEVE THE UNITED NATIONS PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE 2030 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA, AND TO SPECIFICALLY ADOPT THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, NUMBERS 13 THROUGH 17.

1 WHEREAS, the State is recognized as a global partner and
2 local leader in promotion of human rights and protection of the
3 earth through its consistent acceptance of global standards that
4 better serve our islands and the world; and
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6 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is guided by traditional Kanaka Maoli
7 values and emerging international human rights principles to
8 generate positive policy encouraging prevention and precaution
9 regarding the planet; and
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11 WHEREAS, in September 2015, the United Nations General
12 Assembly adopted the historic "Transforming our world: the 2030
13 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2030 Development Agenda),
14 which is a comprehensive, compassionate, creative, and
15 courageous plan of action to end poverty, protect the planet,
16 and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the 2030 Development Agenda includes seventeen
19 sustainable development goals, one hundred sixty-nine targets,
20 and two hundred thirty indicators upon which general agreement
21 has been reached to measure, monitor, and mobilize to achieve
22 these goals and targets; and
23

24 WHEREAS, goals 13 through 17 of the United Nations
25 sustainable development goals are vital to protecting the
26 State's land and people and should be adopted as local policy
27 and governing principles for local government entities and other
28 organizations; and
29



1 WHEREAS, goals 13 through 17 of the United Nations
2 sustainable development goals are the following, respectively:

- 3
4 (1) Take urgent action to combat climate change and its
5 impacts;
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7 (2) Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and
8 marine resources for sustainable development;
9
10 (3) Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of
11 terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests,
12 combat desertification, and halt and reverse land
13 degradation and halt biodiversity loss;
14
15 (4) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for
16 sustainable development, provide access to justice for
17 all and build effective, accountable and inclusive
18 institutions at all levels; and
19
20 (5) Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize
21 the global partnership for sustainable development;
22 and
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24 WHEREAS, in December 2015, parties to the United Nations
25 Framework Convention on Climate Change, also known as Conference
26 of the Parties, adopted the Paris Agreement that further limited
27 the allowable temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius to
28 protect our Pacific neighbors; and
29

30 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to partner with other states,
31 territories, and nation-states with the "We Are Still In"
32 movement; and
33

34 WHEREAS, the Pacific islands in the Pacific Islands Forum
35 for Oceania have undertaken creative campaigns to partner with
36 the United Nations' specialized agency programs and funding, as
37 well as participating in the United Nations' major forums,
38 including the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable
39 Development, which focuses on the United Nations sustainable
40 development goals; and
41



1 WHEREAS, the Global Pact for the Environment (Global Pact)
2 is an initiative led by the hosts of United Nations Framework
3 Convention on Climate Change in Paris to address the fragmented
4 nature and inconsistent implementation of international
5 environmental law by enumerating fundamental climate change
6 principles in one legally binding framework for current and
7 future generations for equity and equality; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Global Pact will serve as a cornerstone in
10 international human rights and environmental law and create a
11 more coherent global environmental governance; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the Global Pact addresses the challenges posed by
14 environmental degradation in the context of sustainable
15 development and induces a greater degree of uniformity for
16 environmental laws in all states; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the Global Pact consists of over two dozen
19 articles that cover a variety of topics and ideas to consider
20 for implementation, including:
21

- 22 (1) The right to an ecologically sound environment;
- 23
- 24 (2) The duty to take care of the environment;
- 25
- 26 (3) Integration and sustainable development;
- 27
- 28 (4) Intergenerational equity;
- 29
- 30 (5) Prevention;
- 31
- 32 (6) Precaution;
- 33
- 34 (7) Environmental damages;
- 35
- 36 (8) Polluter-pays;
- 37
- 38 (9) Access to information;
- 39
- 40 (10) Public participation;
- 41
- 42 (11) Access to environmental justice;



- (12) Education and training;
- (13) Research and innovation;
- (14) The role of non-state actors and subnational entities;
- (15) The effectiveness of environmental norms;
- (16) Resilience;
- (17) Environmental non-regression;
- (18) Cooperation;
- (19) Armed conflicts;
- (20) The diversity of national situations;
- (21) Monitoring implementation of the Pact; and
- (22) Other topics focusing on the Secretariat, signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, entry into force, denunciation, and depositary; and

WHEREAS, the Global Pact provides an agenda based upon the articles for grassroots and global action to generate the political will to protect the planet today and tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the State desires to promote sustainable development where each generation can satisfy its needs without compromising the capability of future generations to meet their needs to respect the balance and integrity of the earth's and Hawai'i's fragile ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i emphasizes the vital role of women to achieve the United Nations sustainable development goals and the necessity to promote gender equality and empowerment of wahine for global general well-being; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is already involved in international initiatives to protect the planet and the Oceania region by



1 actively participating in many United Nations annual sessions
2 and meetings and by partnering with United Nations specialized
3 agencies, programs, and funds, including partnering with the
4 United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
5 and participating in the United Nations Environment Programme;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, in Hawai'i, college, community, and capitol
9 dialogues on the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Development
10 Agenda, among other climate change topics, continue to generate
11 genuine insight that contributes to Voluntary Local Reviews,
12 which are voluntary reports to the United Nations on local
13 progress on implementing the United Nations sustainable
14 development goals; and
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16 WHEREAS, local opportunities for the State's youth to learn
17 about and participate in climate change initiatives include
18 opportunities at colleges and universities that provide input on
19 achieving the Global Pact, with a focus on research and
20 innovation, and participation in a Hawai'i human rights and
21 resilience process; now, therefore,
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
24 of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
25 Representatives concurring, that the State and each county are
26 urged to adopt the Global Pact to achieve the United Nations
27 Paris Agreement and the 2030 Development Agenda, and to
28 specifically adopt the United Nations sustainable development
29 goals, numbers 13 through 17; and
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Global Pact should be
32 embraced and that protection of nature should be the centerpiece
33 of the State's policies and practices; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United Nations
37 Secretary General and High Commissioner for Human Rights,
38 President and Vice President of the United States, President Pro
39 Tempore of the United States Senate, Majority and Minority
40 Leaders of the United States Senate, Speaker and Minority Leader
41 of the United States House of Representatives, each member of



1 Hawai'i's congressional delegation, Governor, and each mayor of
2 the several counties of the State.
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